

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

5           A system for providing a local computer system user with detail information  
about remote computer system users, such as users of separate client computer systems  
from that of the local user. The detail information regarding remote users is obtained by  
a client software program on the local computer system, and originates in at least one  
program and/or system external to the client application software providing the detail  
10 information to the local user. The detail information is accessible through graphical  
objects associated with remote users, and presented either within a visual context of an  
awareness client program, or within the visual context of an application program external  
to the awareness client program. Users are able to control the specific detail information  
about them that is made available to other users.

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